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Date: March 13, 2006

Signature:

*Liza D. Hohenschutz*  
(Liza D. Hohenschutz)

Docket No.: 09879-00017-US  
(PATENT)

MAR 16 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Diether Rueppel et al.

Application No.: 09/744,621

Confirmation No.: 1893

Filed: February 15, 2001

Art Unit: 1615

For: MICROPARTICLES PRODUCED FROM  
CYCLIC OLEFIN COPOLYMERS AND  
THEIR USE FOR THE CONTROLLED  
RELEASE OF ACTIVE AGENTS

Examiner: S. T. Tran

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

This is in response to the Office Action mailed September 12, 2005, the time for a response to which has been extended to and through March 13, 2006. This paper is timely filed on Monday, March 13, 2006. The extended due date was Sunday, March 12, 2006. Monday, March 13, 2006 is the next succeeding day the Patent and Trademark Office is open for business.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 2 of this paper.